Findings

Pedestrian survey and 22 shovel tests produced a total of only three surface artifacts. This finding suggests that XMH-01103 is a small surface lithic scatter with no diagnostic tools or artifacts. The paucity of cultural material indicates that XMH-01103 does not contain additional information that is important to our understanding of the prehistory or history of the region and is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

XMH-01107

Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Eligible

Site XMH-01107 is located at the top of a large isolated hill. The site has a 360° unobstructed view of the surrounding terrain, including views of a large ridge to the west and , which is approximately 1km to the south. The closest water source is a small (20m diameter) dry lake located 200m southeast of the site. Due to recent episodes of forest fires, there is a moderate to high degree of surface visibility at the site. UTM coordinates for the site are:

Figure 60. General view of site XMH-01107, facing south

Table 5. Lithic assemblage recorded from XMH-01107

Artifact Class	Frequency	% of Assemblages
Bifaces		
Bifacial tool	1	2%
Projectile point (fragment)	2	4%
Biface fragments	3	5%
Unifaces		
End scrapers and fragments	3	5%
Uniface fragment	1	2%
Burins		
Possible burin spall	1	2%
Debitage		
Flakes	42	73%
Shatter	4	7%
Total	57	100%

Site XMH-01107 consists of 57 artifacts, 11 of which are tools or tool fragments. Forty-four pieces of lithic debitage were found on the surface of the site, as were all of the tools. Additionally, two pieces of flaked stone were found in two different shovel tests. One light gray bifacially worked tool was found at the site. This artifact has been reworked from the base of a projectile point fragment. Other bifacially worked tools include two lanceolate projectile point fragments, one gray chert fragment, a brown rhyolite tool fragment, two gray chert tool fragments that refit, and one gray chert tool fragment.

Shovel tests were systematically placed across the site at intervals of 5-10m where slope and vegetation allowed. A total of two of the shovel tests were positive, with each containing one artifact. Subsurface artifacts were found from 10-35cmbs. Soil thickness in the shovel tests varied from 20-50cm in depth. Soil stratigraphy and deposition was generally uniform throughout the top of the hill where little deposition occurred. The soil here consists of a loosely compacted, dark brown, organically rich loess to an average depth of 5cmbs. Below this organic horizon the soil consists of a moderately compacted brown to light brown loess with a low density of gravels. Glacial till is encountered below this loess deposit and consists of a yellowish brown sandy silty soil with a high density of gravels and cobbles to an average depth of 30cmbs. Down slope from the top of the hill soil deposition was thicker and averaged 50cm in depth. The soil here consists of a loosely compacted, dark brown, organically rich loess to an average depth of 8cmbs. Below this organic horizon the soil consists of a moderately compacted brown to light brown loess with a low to moderate density of gravels. Glacial till is encountered below this loess deposit and consists of a yellowish to reddish brown sandy silty soil with a high density of gravels and cobbles to an average depth of 55cmbs.

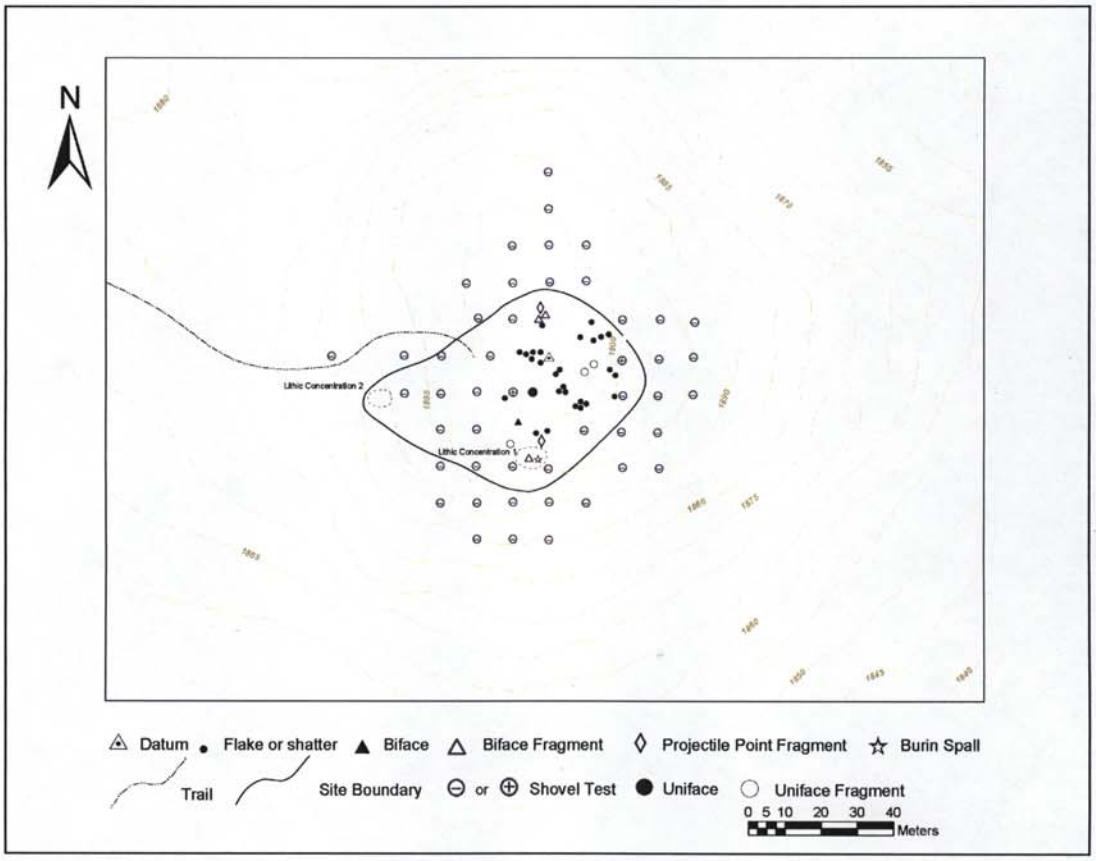

Figure 61. Site map of XMH-01107

Findings

A total of 57 artifacts were recorded at XMH-01107. Fifty-five of these artifacts were recorded on the surface and two artifacts were recovered from below the surface. The materials at the site include light gray chert, gray chert, red chert, white chert, fine-grained basalt, rhyolite, and quartz. Based on the results of the survey and testing, the site area is estimated at approximately 40m x 55m.

Site XMH-01107 is a large site with both surface and buried components. With buried cultural material, XMH-01107 is in an excellent position to contribute to our knowledge of prehistoric land use patterns. In situ artifacts and soil stratigraphy indicate datable material and diagnostic artifacts may be present and could be used to date human use of the site, potentially contributing to a broader regional context. Site XMH-01107 is an intact archaeological site with integrity. The site is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under criterion D for its potential to yield information important in understanding the prehistory of the region.

XMH-01109
Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Eligible

Figure 62. General view of XMH-01109, facing north

Site XMH-01109 is located on a large east-west trending ridge that extends to the east of . The site has a 360° unobstructed view of the surrounding terrain with views of the Granite Mountains to the southeast and Donnelly Dome to the southwest. The closest water source is a small (40m diameter) lake located 200m to the southeast which is not visible from the site. is approximately 1km to the northwest and is visible from the site. Due to recent forest fires surface visibility at the site is moderate. UTM coordinates for the site are:

Site XMH-01109 consists of 17 artifacts. Three flakes were recorded on the surface and 14 flakes were recovered from below the surface, either from shovel tests or the excavation unit. The site was originally described as consisting of three pieces of lithic debitage observed on the ground surface during the 2003 phase 1 survey. During the phase 2 investigations 14 subsurface artifacts were located.

Shovel tests were systematically placed at the site at intervals of 5m and 10m. Due to severity of slope and density of vegetation, shovel tests were randomly placed in locations where excavation was possible. A total of 21 shovel tests were excavated at the site. The depth of the shovel tests varied, but all were excavated down to glacial till. One of the shovel tests was positive and contained three artifacts (two of the pieces are refits) at a depth of 5cmbs.

One 1m x 1m test unit was excavated at site XMH-01109. The unit was placed within 1m of the positive shovel test and was excavated in 10cm levels. Shovel tests and the excavation unit revealed soil deposition that varied from 10-40cm in depth across the site. The soil consists of a loosely compacted, dark brown, organically rich loess to an average depth of 5cm. Below this organic horizon the soil consists of a moderately compacted brown to light brown loess with a low density of gravels. Glacial till is encountered below this loess deposit and consists of a yellowish brown sandy silty soil with a high density of gravels and cobbles.

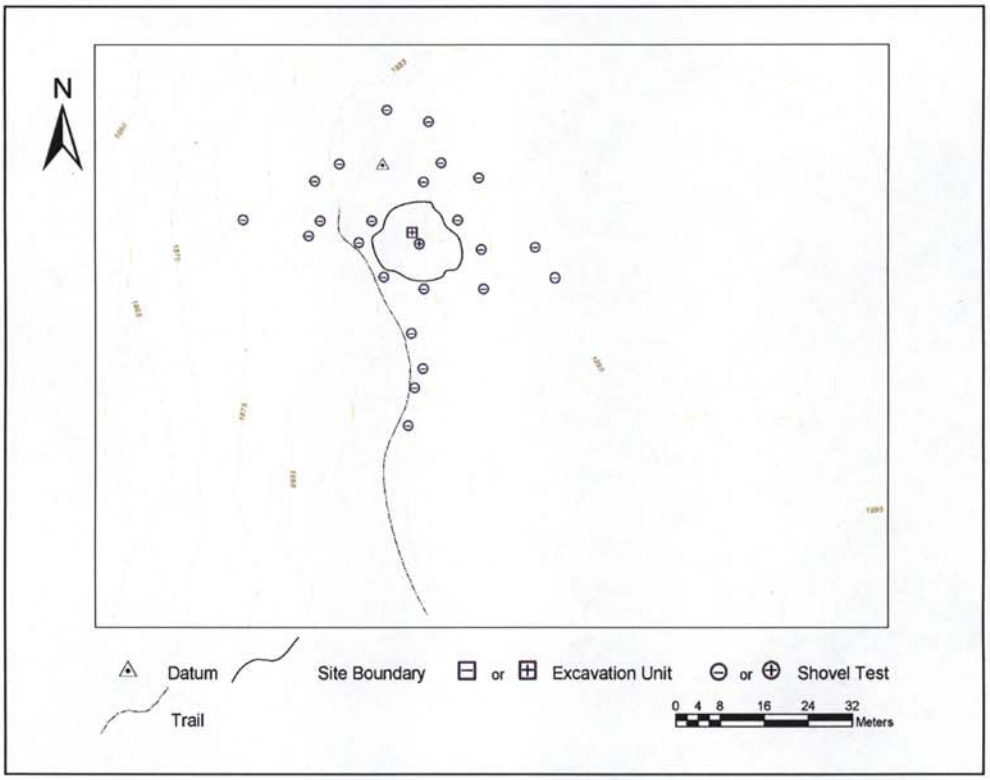

Figure 63. Site map of XMH-01109

Findings

A total of 17 artifacts were recovered from XMH-01109. The majority of these were recovered from below the surface. The materials at the site include chert and quartz. Based on the results of survey and testing, the site area is estimated at approximately 10m x 10m.

Site XMH-01109 is a small buried site where late stage lithic reduction occurred. With buried cultural material, XMH-01109 is in an excellent position to contribute to our knowledge of prehistoric land use patterns. In situ artifacts and soil stratigraphy indicate datable material and diagnostic artifacts may be present and could be used to date human use of the site, potentially contributing to a broader regional context. Site XMH-01109 is an intact archaeological site with integrity. The site is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under criterion D for its potential to yield information important in understanding the prehistory of the region.

XMH-01110

Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Eligible

Site XMH-01110 is located on a northeast-southwest trending bluff overlooking to the west. Donnelly Dome is visible to the southwest, the Alaska Range to the west, and the Granite Mountains to the east. The nearest water source is , located approximately 500m to the northwest. is approximately 1km to the south. There is no surface visibility at the site due to vegetation. UTM coordinates for the site are:

Site XMH-01110 consists of two flakes recovered from below the surface in shovel tests and the excavation unit. These flakes were collected. Shovel tests were systematically placed throughout the site area at intervals of 10m. Two shovel tests were placed at 5m intervals near the positive shovel test (from phase 1) just north of the site datum. A total of 26 (6 in 2003 and 20 in 2004) shovel tests were excavated to glacial till.

Figure 64. General view of XMH-01110, facing west

One 1m x 1m test unit was excavated at site XMH-01110. This test unit was placed northeast of the site datum near the positive shovel test excavated in 2003. The unit was excavated in 10cm levels until glacial till was reached throughout the entire unit floor. The test unit contained one artifact recovered from level two, 10-20cm below the unit datum, which was the northwest corner of the unit. No subsurface features were identified at the site. Soil thickness varied from 30-70cm across the site. The entire landform is very well vegetated and soil deposition averaged 45cm.

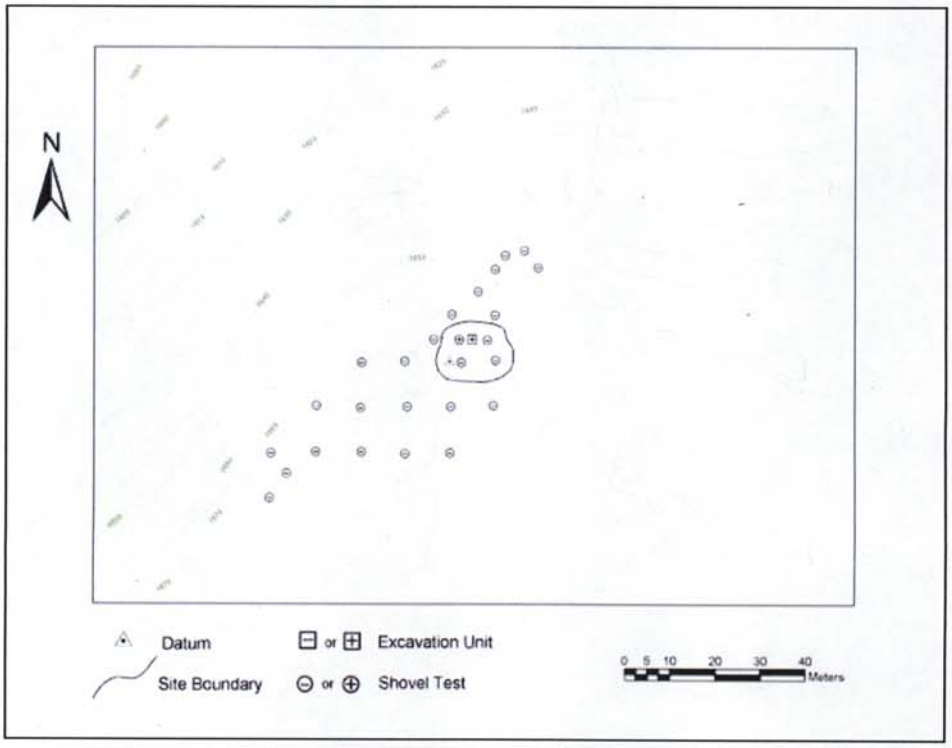

Figure 65. Site map of XMH-01110

Soil at the site consists of loosely compacted, dark brown, organically rich loess to an average depth of 5cm. Below this organic horizon the soil consists of moderately compacted reddish brown loess with a low density of gravels and cobbles. Below this is a third layer, consisting of moderately compacted yellow brown loess, also with a low density of gravels and cobbles. Glacial till is encountered below this layer and consists of yellow brown sandy loess with a very high density of gravels and cobbles.

Findings
A total of two artifacts were recovered from XMH-01110, all from below the surface. The materials at the site include chert and basalt. Based on the results of survey and testing, the site area is estimated at approximately 15m x 15m.

Site XMH-01110 is a small buried site where late stage lithic reduction occurred. With buried cultural material, XMH-1110 is in an excellent position to contribute to our knowledge of prehistoric land use patterns. Despite the low density of artifacts, in situ artifacts and soil stratigraphy indicate datable material and diagnostic artifacts may be present and could be used to date human use of the site, potentially contributing to a broader regional context. Site XMH-01110 is an intact archaeological site with integrity. The site is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under criterion D for its potential to yield information important in understanding the prehistory of the region.

XMH-01112
Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Not Eligible

Figure 66. General view of XMH-01112, facing north

Site XMH-01112 is located on a hilltop that is part of a larger north-south trending ridgeline. The hill slopes up to the south and continues on to a larger, more elevated hill where XMH-01107 is located. Views are restricted in this direction but are unobstructed to the north, with views of a large expanse of generally flat terrain and to approximately 2km to the northwest. The closest water source is a small (20m diameter) dry lake that is immediately down slope from the hill and 50m to the west. The hilltop has burned recently and has experienced some wind erosion and, as a result, there is approximately 50 percent ground visibility at the site. UTM coordinates for the site are:

Site XMH-01112 consists of one gray chert flake recorded on the surface. This site was originally identified during a 2003 pedestrian survey as consisting of two flakes observed on the surface. However, during the 2004 evaluation of the site, the second artifact was deemed to be an ecofact.

Shovel tests were systematically placed throughout the site area at intervals of 10m. A total of six shovel tests were excavated at the site, none of which contained cultural material. The depth of the shovel tests varied, but all were excavated to glacial till.

Findings
Pedestrian survey and six shovel tests produced a total of only one surface artifact. This finding suggests that XMH-01112 is an isolated find. The paucity of cultural material indicates that XMH-01112 does not contain additional information that is important to our understanding of the prehistory or history of the region and is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.